PTO/SB/30 (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Requesting Application Number 09/551,143 For Filing Date April 14, 2000 Continued Examination (RCE) First Named Inventor Hideaki YOSHIDA **Transmittal** Art Unit 2612 Address to: Mail Stop RCE Kelly L. Jerabek Examiner Name Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Attorney Docket Number 000489 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such Previously submitted on December 29, 2005. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. ii Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii Other **Enclosed** Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Amendment/Reply Other ii Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of ___ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when RCE is filed. Check in the amount of \$910.00 enclosed 02/13/2006 SZEWDIE1 00000007 09551143 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) 790.00 OP Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees in connection with filing of this paper or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name
(Print/Type)
Thomas E. Brown
(Print/Type)
Date
February 10, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)
Signature
Date

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.